Dan Hardway & Edwin Lopez - The HSCA and the CIA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmRhdOvzyQQ (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmRhdOvzyQQ)

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The View from the Trenches and the View from the Top

“Initially, the CIA was cooperating — we had no reason to think that they weren’t… [It was] when we started pushing… on investigating the disinformation efforts after the assassination, and realizing that I could tie just about every single disinformation effort directly back to David Phillips, that George Joannides gets involved.” Dan Hardway

Dan Hardway, J.D.: An attorney in private practice and former researcher for the House Select Committee on Assassinations from 1977-1978.

Ed Lopez, J.D.: is the General Counsel for the Rochester New York City School District. From 1977 to 1979 he served as Researcher/Investigator for the House Select Committee on Assassinations where he researched the “Pro-Cuban” issue and co-researched with Dan Hardway the “Oswald Mexico City” issue, a report that was only recently declassified. Lopez interviewed over 100 witnesses, and analyzed numerous Top Secret documents. In connection with his official duties he traveled to Cuba and interviewed President Fidel Castro.

Oswald, the CIA, and Mexico City: The Lopez-Hardway Report Paperback – November 2, 2006: http://www.amazon.com/Oswald-CIA-Mexico-City-Lopez-Hardway/dp/0979009928/

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I've been joined by two people who are relevant to this story if we think in terms of a succession of stations or stages places where we're standing on solid ground these two gentlemen are responsible for significant developments which placed us in a place where we had not been before and which are unambiguous and undeniable they're our work as investigators for the House Select Committee on assassinations their interviews and interaction with George Joni DS who was brought out of retirement to act as an intermediary between the CIA and the pesky congressional investigation investigating the broad daylight murder of a popular sitting president and their authorship of either the hard way Lopez report or is it the Lopez hardway report it's just not really really the Blakey V Goldsmith the Fonzie yes hardway Lopez okay that's what it is yeah it's my honor to introduce Dan hardway in ED Lopez thank you I am Dan hardway I know you would be hard-pressed to tell that I was then and this was dead Lopez by just looking at us it's always been that way he's the Spanish guy I am but that's a

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he's the Spanish guy I am but that's a long story for a different forum and it is an honorary hillbilly I had I had the distinct privilege of working for and with or for Bob Blakey and with Ed Lopez from 1977 1978 on the House Select Committee on assassinations it was my honor and privilege to be able to assist ed in preparing

the Lopez report and and to work for Bob ad and I both were students at Cornell and accompany Bob to DC from Cornell took leaves of absence and worked on the committee I know you're all expecting Bob to be here this morning and he was supposed to be here this morning however he was unable to get here and killed tomorrow so he will be picked up hearing tomorrow afternoon I do have a statement that is basically a summary of his statement that he was going to make this morning that I've been asked to read on Bob's behalf as part of this presentation so if you will bear with my reading skills and I will try to read Bob's statement to you the title of it is the HSC a and the CIA the view from the top and it begins in the fall of 1962 the CIA had a problem the Cuban Missile Crisis had ended with a peaceful resolution most Americans have been greatly relieved but the organization that the CIA considered the to be the single most important was very upset with the American government that organization was the revolutionary student directly directory usually referred to by the initials dr he representing its spanish name the de ré was a direct descendant of a cuban student group founded in Cuba with the help of CIA agent David Phillips the week after the missile crisis ended the d-r-e provided information to the

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the d-r-e provided information to the Washington evening star a newspaper that there still were missiles hidden in Cuba the story ran with a front page headline 12 days later the Secretary General of the d-r-e appeared on NBC's Today Show where he once again claimed to have seen with his own eyes nuclear missiles hidden in the caves and hills of Cuba Richard Helms was then the Deputy Director of plans for the CIA as such he was in charge of the clandestine services political warfare and covert operations as such he did not want to lose the agency's influence with the d-r-e most of the funding for the organization was provided by the CIA but they were proving to be a difficult organization to control Helms summoned the Secretary General of the d-r-e to Washington for a face-to-face meeting as a result of that meeting Helms told the d-r-e that he would appoint a case officer who would be personally responsible directly to Helms for the work with the d-r-e the officer Helms chose was George Jo and edie's we know from the limited information that has been released about mr. Jo and edie's that his work with the d-r-e was considered to have been very good and successful he began working with the group in late 1962 his second specific duty was serving as a case officer for a student project involving political action propaganda intelligence collection in the hemisphere wide and a hemisphere wide apparatus the d-r-e by January 1963 he was commended for quote resolving complicated problems involving control of this unruly group close quote in July of 1963 his fitness report noted that Joanie DS has done an excellent job in the handling of significant student exiled group which hitherto had successfully resisted any important degree of control that's a quote again

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degree of control that's a quote again from his fitness reports he was promoted to take over as head of the political warfare branch of the CIA's Miami station and the words he became the manager of the propaganda operations and the only operation that he retained the only operation running operation that he retained under his direct control was the d-r-e the assassinations record Review Board released the copies of Joe and Edie's fitness reports from the that the agency turned over to them from the start of his work with the d-r-e in the fall of 1962 there are quarterly reports until July of 1963 the next release fitness report is dated May 15th 1964 and covers the period from April 1st 1963 to March 31st 1964 in that time he has been promoted again to head the cover at covert action branch of the Miami station while remaining the senior case officer for d-r-e the report praises joe and edie's for the quality in quantity quality and quantity of his propaganda and political action programs and his ability to translate policy directives into meaningful actions by all of his assets as most of you know it was in this period in August of 1963 that Lee Harvey Oswald had an encounter with the D Ari's representatives in New Orleans that encounter resulted not only in widespread publicity in New Orleans at the time including newspaper articles television coverage and radio interviews it also resulted in the first reports time trying to tie Lee Harvey Oswald the Castro after the assassination of John Kennedy d-r-e their information had their information the day of the assassination and it was covered in both the Miami Herald and the Washington Post the next day headlines in both papers the d-r-e published the details of what they knew in their own paper that week the CIA never told the Warren Commission

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the CIA never told the Warren Commission about their support of or work with the d-r-e in 1963 to my knowledge the CIA never told the Church Committee about it the AAR RB asked the agency about D re at the suggestion of Jeff surely the CIA initially told the ARB the ARR be the same thing they told me in the HSC a the agency had no employee in contact with dr e in 1963 the ARR be conducted its own examination of CIA records and found Joannie DS personnel file with it's clear indication that he was a dr e case officer when working as chief counsel for the HSC AI requested all the agency fouls on bre and its members as early as March his night of 1978 the request included a demand that the agency identified any employees who had in the period from 1960 to 1964 worked with the d-r-e after that initial request for records at least two additional requests were made in May in July of 1978 the agency repeatedly assured the committee that they had had no contact with the d-r-e in 1963 having severed all contacts in April of that year the leaders of the dren interviews with the committee staff indicated they would they worked with a CIA case officer in 1963 the agency assured me that they would search their records and try to identify such an officer the agency employee who contacted me to advise that they could find no record of any such case officer was George Jo and edie's he did tell us however that he would keep looking and he did George Jo and edie's was brought out of retirement by the agency to specifically work as a liaison with our committee he was

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liaison with our committee he was specifically tasked with dealing mainly with the in hard way and Ed Lopez but he lied directly to me a lawsuit by Jeff Morley was sought to force the CIA to divulge more of its files on Jo and edie's in the course of that lawsuit a sworn affidavit revealed that Jo and edie's was working in an undercover capacity during his time as a liaison to the committee Jo and edie's and the CIA effectively frustrated the HSC a investigation into whether the agency had any involvement with those who may have had a hand in bringing about the death of John Kennedy had the agency told the truth about George Jo and edie's he would have been called as a critical witness he would have been deposed and he would have likely testified an executive session if they had not delivered the records the records would have been subpoenaed I know that Dan and Eddie believed that he ended any effective investigation that they were undertaking they complained bitterly at the time about it at the time I should have listened to them that makes me and Eddie feel real good now Admiral Stansfield Turner the DCI the director of Central Intelligence in a letter to chairman Stokes on November 30th 1978 said in the context of addressing problems Dan and Eddie were causing but not believing that the agency was cooperating with us quote we believe that we have provided you with all the information available to us which is pertinent to your investigation and hope very much that you can accept this letter as the final assurance of that fact at that time I did I was wrong I can no longer say with confidence as the HSC a final report did that Oswald had no significant relationship with the d-r-e at this point what we know is that the CIA has hidden this information from every investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding the assassination indeed they have not just hidden the information they have lied to at least both the HSC a and the ARR B I

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at least both the HSC a and the ARR B I believe that rises to the level of probable violation of law that prohibits impeding the due and proper inquiry of the Committees of Congress I no longer trust anything that the agency has told us in regard to the assassination it lied to the Warren Commission it lied to the ARB it lied to the HSC a in omitting that Joanne et's was employed in a covert capacity as liaison to the HSC a it has admitted that yet violated its Charter and ran a domestic covert operation aimed at subverting the CH SCA and its investigation I do not believe for a minute that records did not exist they may not now but they did at one time money was involved and money had to be internally documented even at the agency that the agency would put a material witness in a covert capacity as a filter between the committee staff the agency and the agency was an outrageous breach of our understanding with the agency the agency's Charter and the laws of this country as a result I now believe that we were not able to conduct an appropriate investigation of the CIA while the agency did not give us none but those in the agency can know for sure I do

not believe any denial offered by the agency on any point the law has long followed the rule that if a person lies to you on one point you may reject all of his testimony the CIA not only lied it actively subverted the investigation it is time that either Congress or the Justice Department conduct a real investigation of the CIA indeed in my opinion it is long past time

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that's what Baba was planning on saying the time so Dan that's a tendency to go off out there so both time and I'll make sure that you talks for about a half hour I won't I don't want to impede and Ed's time I want to leave plenty of time for questions and I certainly don't want to take a John Newman's time which may be the most significant time here at this whole conference but I want to I address the the same issue which is the HSC a of you from the trenches at the wet conference last October in Pittsburgh and I understand that the printed version of my comments on that is going to be available on the AARC website and that would be a arsc library dot RG and if they're not already up they'll be up within the next few days and you can download the full text of my comments there and I'm not going to cover all that I said there again today if you want to hear those comments the videos available at WWDC re exhumed calm front slice shop front slash and I think it's $2.99 to download a copy of my presentation if you want a more detailed view on that but I talked about what it was like at the committee to to work there and how we got started how I became involved in it and what it was like when they brought Joe and edie's in and shut us down I talked a little bit about some of the things that we've been working on that we were trying to find out about at the time and what might have been their motivation for what they did and why they did it one of the

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did and why they did it one of the things that that I would like to say right up front is a lot of people have asked me why Bob Blake he believed the CIA and why he ever accepted that they were cooperating with him and I've thought about that in and I want to address that for a minute because we had a hard time Eddie and I had a hard time passing our security background checks and that was really the first battle that Bob thought for us was to make them give us security clearances and for me it was a pretty interesting just to tell you I grew up in Harlem and so when the FBI went out to talk to people in my neighborhood people said they didn't know who I was because whenever the FBI the police came by they weren't going to admit that they knew whomever it was they were looking for so Bob took have me visit New York City talked to my friends and neighbors and tell them it was okay to talk soup well we won't talk about the other reasons why you had troubles but and I ain't gonna saying anything about why I did but but the the the thing you have to understand is in people have asked me this also well why do you think the CIA gay agreed to give you guys unexpurgated access I think they seriously underestimated us I think they thought they had Bob in their pocket they thought that me and Eddie were wet-behind-the-ears law school students who would not and matter of 18 months be able to master anything or much of anything and once we got in there they assign clerks we had an office at the CIA for about nine months and we reported to work every morning in Langley and they would have an escort who would take us from the front of the building into this interior chamber it had no windows in it and they would lock us in and then our contact

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would lock us in and then our contact would be a CIA employee initially it was Regis bleh Hut and then after Regis got transferred down to the CIA or to the committee offices it was two other clerk type people who would come in and bring us the files that we were asking for it the type of access that we had was we would sit there and we would read files and our main brief was Mexico City but we had Bob's agreement that as long as we were getting our work done on Mexico City we could ask for anything we wanted to we were asking for stuff on the Mitch warbell we were asking for stuff on the Bill Harvey we were asking for stuff on qje when we were investigating every possibility that we could think of that we'd seen in the critical literature and we're trying to do and we were doing it all at one time so that there wasn't necessarily a clear pattern that was emerging from what we were asking for it and we weren't required to ask in writing so there wasn't a

permanent record trail of what we were asking for either if you read about when they bring Joe and Edie's in their main justification was to create a paper trail of what we were requesting and and the way it would work is I would read a file and I'd see a reference to this operation or to this file mmm I'd tell the clerk I want this file and then within a day or two I would have that file and I was getting it pretty much most of it and as far as I could tell and expurgated with no deletions and we were getting great access to great stuff and consequently we told bob we were happy with that and initially the the CIA was cooperating we had no reason to think that they weren't when we started pushing and at this point I think this was mainly me that started pushing on investigating the disinformation efforts

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investigating the disinformation efforts after the assassination and realizing that I could tie just about every single disinformation effort directly back to David Phillips that George Joni Dee's gets involved and George Joe and Edie's the first thing he does is he shuts our office in the CIA and the new arrangement is that we will work out of the headquarters building the committee and that we will be required to formally request everything we want to see and that it will be provided to us in a safe room at our headquarters and the alleged reason was so that they could keep an accurate record of what we were asking for and what we had seen what it was was they were able to slow us down and shut us off from anything really significant that we were looking for and I go into some of the details in that in the presentation that I did in Pittsburgh which I again I don't want to repeat because I want to go one step further here today and I want to offer some views and expand a little bit on if you download the written presentation of those Pittsburgh remarks I'm expanding on what I said and footnote 30 of that paper but the one I want to talk to you about is why pop what possibly were they keeping from us what was it that I had found that they were concerned that I could dig deeper into and this was not apparent to me at the time because I didn't know about Joe and edie's it's only through the work of Jeff Morley and through the work of dr. John Newman that I've been able to put together what it was that I was that I had that was so

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was that I was that I had that was so significant from their perspective that I didn't see at the time as being as significant as it was I knew it was significant but not near as significant as it has become apparent in light of the other facts that have come out here's what we know David Phillips recruited the leadership of this d-r-e while he was serving in a van in the 1950s and was the Ari's first case officer at the time it was known as the dr and it was in cuba when their leadership when the d-r-e leadership fled Cuba in 1960 a guy named William Kent a case officer in Miami became the D Ari's first case officer in the United State and organize them into an effective organization after moving from Cuba to headquarters David Phillips became responsible for some of the early disinformation operations aimed at the fair play for Cuba committee he designed the first anti fair play for Cuba committee operation that was David Phillips that did that during the Bay of Pigs Phillips was in charge of anti-castro propaganda operations at headquarters as such he worked closely with a guy he called Doug Upton at JM wave Doug Upton was William Kent Phillips described their working relationship as being very close Gupton wasn't a registered pseudonym but was rather a cover name that Kant the true officers true name used in the field it is very likely that William Kent Doug Upton's registered pseudonym in 1963 was Robert K true chard Philips work on Cuban disinformation continued after his transfer to Mexico City in 1961 until he left Mexico City in 1965

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1961 until he left Mexico City in 1965 in the fall of 1962 George Joni DS was handpicked by Richard Helms remember Helms promised the Secretary General of d-r-e that he'd have a personal representative Joanne Dedes was handpicked by Helms Joanne Dedes was part of what was known in the CIA is the Greek mafia that came out of the Greece Greek operations in the late 1940s and was directly tied into Thomas karamja scenes and Richard Helms through personal loyalties as well as professional relationships extending back into the late 1940s he was handpicked by Helms to replace Ross Crozier as the d-r-e case officer in Miami

after their puppy Ari's public opposition to the policies of the government during the October 1962 Missile Crisis Joe Anita's reported directly to Richard Helms Joanne Dedes registered pseudonym was Walter D newbie his supervisor was Robert K treasured William Kent the Gupton who was very close to David Allen Phillips after 90% of the dr east funds came from the CIA the assassination records Review Board managed to force the CIA to classify a few of Jojo and Edie's reports now I'm not getting into the footnoted information that's in my presentation this presentation the written version of it will be up on the website eventually as well and you can find the dirty details as you said the devil and was it you or someone said the devil is in the details yes those details will be in the paper the ARB managed to force disclosure of his fitness reports as bob Blakey's presentation said and in july night and 31st 1963 Joanne Dede supervisor Robert Kate Rashard who had a very close working relationship with David Phillips commended Joanne Deedee's for doing a quote an excellent job of handling a significant student exile operation this stuff Bob covered it listed his second

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stuff Bob covered it listed his second specific duty as a case officer for a student project involving political action propaganda intelligence collection and a hemisphere wide apparatus between August 9th and August 21st 1963 Oswald became something of a celebrity in New Orleans after his encounter with the local d-r-e branch while passing out fair play for Cuba committee pamphlets this was aa sward who would have organized the one man member fair play for Cuba committee in New Orleans at the offices of guy banister and and but there were no intelligence connections this didn't have anything to do with an anti fair play for Cuba committee propaganda operation obviously and for that Joanne Edie's quarterly fitness report covering that period is one of the ones that have not been released and I think if I think they told Jeff Morley that they didn't exist at some point between July 31st 1963 in May 15th 1964 Joanne Dedes replaced Kent as the chief of cover operations of jam wave while the scantily released documents on Joe and Edie's makes it impossible determine the time that can't recharge references and jam wave files in after July 25th 1963 but by early October 1963 Kent is working at headquarters on women Western Hemisphere Central America desk he got promoted where Kent tree chard was between the end of July and October 11th 1963 when we first know that he was at headquarters is not known isn't that interesting it's reasonable therefore to presume that Joe and edie's became the director of covert operations at Jam wave replacing Kent tree chard sometime

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wave replacing Kent tree chard sometime between the end of July and the beginning of October of 1963 as the director he is said to have had a quote distinct flair for political action operations and can translate policy directives into meaningful action programs as the director of covert operations Joni T's not only retained to only retain direct responsibility for one operation the student project involving the distribution of printed propaganda production of radio programs and the development of political action programs well it sounds like what happened with the re in New Orleans doesn't it on September 16 1963 the CIA informed the FBI that it was considering action to counter the activities of the fair play for Cuba committee in foreign countries and that their basis for their plan in foreign countries was a successful operation that had been run in the United States that was September 16 September 17th Lee Harvey Oswald applied for and received a Mexican travel visa right after William Gay did an acknowledged CIA agent on September 27th Oswald arrived in Mexico City on that day and the following day Oswald may have visited the Cuban consulate on those days the Mexico City CIA station was testing an impulse camera and their photo surveillance operation aimed at the door of the Cuban consulate it generated six ten feet of 16 millimeter film which has disappeared sometime in late September Phillips left Mexico City on temporary duty assignment to headquarters it is at this time that Phillips is promoted to the chief of anti-castro operations in Mexico City okay do you see what happened Phillips got promoted true chard got promoted Joannie DS got promoted the CIA announced that had a successful domestic

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announced that had a successful domestic anti FPC see on that they were exporting the people responsible for the successful program Phillips Joanne DDS William Kent all just got promoted at the same time amazing coincidences in this case on October 1st the Mexico City station sent bulk materials to headquarters by an untraceable transmittal manifest in a diplomatic pouch quote to be held in registry until picked up by Michael C choten that was the registered pseudonym of David Phillips presently TDY headquarters Phillips when he testified under oath lad through his teeth about where he was at this time suggesting we may know why one of the things that I was really pushing on when I got shut down was what was in that pouch how were pouches handled how could a pouch be untraceable how could a transmittal manifest be untraceable why does a transmittal manifest have a number if it's untraceable but at the time I had a suspicion that what was in that transmittal manifest bulk material was approximately 10 feet of 16 millimeter film showing the front of the Cuban consulate on September 27th and September 28th in a self-published book that's very hard to find called the silent war Diaries David Phillips said he monitored Oswald he monitored the Russian and Cuban reactions to Oswald's visit to the embassies if he did he did it from headquarters we were not able to find out what was in the pouch on October 8th 63 the CIA headquarters sent a cable to Miami advising them that David Phillips

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Miami advising them that David Phillips would arrive there the following day for a two-day visit on his way back to Mexico City so he goes down to talk to Joe and edie's I mean let's be reasonable folks this is the offeror propaganda operations why else is he going to jam wave that means he would have been back in Mexico City until around October 11th so what questions does this raise in my mind I can't ask you what it raises in yours you have to ask yourself that what are the some of the inferences that we might draw and I admit that these are somewhat guesses but I'm hoping that they are reasonably informed guesses instead of wild speculation it appears sometime in the fall of 1963 tree shard trick print Kent was promoted from Jam wave to headquarters Joe and edie's was promoted to tree shards old position and jam wave Phillips was promoted to the Cuban desk in Mexico City were these rewards for a successful operation in August Lee Harvey Oswald and BRE had their fun in New Orleans in September of the CIA notified the FBI about exporting their successful but unspecified domestic anti F PCC operations overseas anti FB f PCC operations that were originally designed by David Phillips when they began the day after the CIA noticed Oswald applies for a mexico visa in New Orleans standing in line behind an acknowledged CIA agent Oswald visits Oswald visits the Cuban consulate on September 27th and 28th while the CIA tested an impulse camera photographing the door that would have you that he would have used generating over 10 feet of 16 millimeter film that has disappeared there were also reports that spent time with pro-castro Mexican citizens and students our efforts to find those people and interview them

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find those people and interview them were repeatedly frustrated and blocked by the CIA I don't mean they didn't cooperate Eddy he'll tell you about this on his second trip I didn't get to go with him because I didn't speak Spanish to Mexico City they went down specifically looking for the students who had been reported to have been in contact with Oswald and the CIA actively hid them from our investigators they refused to cooperate with us in finding them they refused to cooperate with us in investigating them they then when we did it on our own and tried to do it secretly and covertly as best we could as Eddie will explain to you they actively hid them from us Phillips observed the Soviet and Cuban reaction Oswald's visit by but by October 1st Phillips's TDY headquarters with Mexico station sends him an untraceable transmittal manifest with unspecified bulk materials to be delivered to him personally and only to him from headquarters Phillips arrived in Miami on October 9th where he spends two days TDY a jam wave on his way back to Mexico City did he meet with tree chard and Ken at headquarters did he meet with newbie Joe and edie's in Miami did they review the results of the operation and dangle that they had just run in Mexico City was that the purpose of the meeting to see whether the domestic operation that had been so successful was going to have success off overseas in foreign areas did he meet did they review the production from the impulse camera what was the production what was that production of the bulk material and the pouch we don't know they

were never asked George Joe and edy shut down the HSC investigation into this area but if you asked me I've just described to you an outline form an intelligence operation that had both counterintelligence and propaganda purposes when we start digging into

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purposes when we start digging into things a little bit more we find that Kent was on assignment William can't Robert Rashard Doug Gupton was on assignment in New Orleans in 1967 at the New Orleans CIA office doesn't it make you wonder whether maybe true shard Kent was in New Orleans in 1967 to help garrison in the same way that Joann Dedes helped us we don't know from the limited information we have on that assignment for Doug Upton and again thank you John Newman we don't know exactly what his position was there but we're told that he was undercover my conclusion the CIA has something to have Joann Dedes knew what they had to hide the CIA knew he knew and knew that we did not know who or what he was or what he was hiding Joann Dedes hid what they wanted hid they may just have been that may just have been the fact that Oswald was used in a CIA operation as William kenseth daughter allegedly once told Gaytan Oswald was a useful idiot and that could have been caused could have been caused by a severe embarrassment and hence the cover-up possible that's the most benign explanation I do not believe that the more benign explanation of embarrassment of her missing him and their embassy coverage can be considered as even remotely possible at this point but rather that is the explanation or just the next layer of a cover story it still leaves open the much more serious question of rather at a minimum the agency through its employees had advanced knowledge of the assassination and did nothing or even worse or involved in the

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or even worse or involved in the conspiracy to kill John Kennedy as always Danny does a phenomenal job just a phenomenal job so I've got to tell you it's great to be here I hadn't seen Dan hardway in 20 years and he just looks a little older has a little less hair when then when Dan and I first started working on the committee I just want you to know Dan had here below the shoulders he and I would go to like an afro dan and I will go to the CIA in flip-flops and then shorts and if I had to do it over again I probably do it the same way because were such but the bottom line however is that it made our relationship hard because they immediately did not trust us okay just have to say that but let me just tell you about Dan um despite folks believing differently in all my work years he has been the easiest guy to play was in the sand a phenomenal work compatriots I can't say enough about it in addition I haven't seen Bob for more than 20 years Emery Fonzi in 15 plus years and I've got to tell you the scenery choked me up and chokes me up as Gaytan you've heard Dan said before was such an important force in my work at the committee and Dan's work at the committee and in our work thereafter I can't wait to speak more to Murray I can't wait to speak to Antonio vasana whom I spoke to in Florida a couple of times with Gaytan and whom gating just adored and thought would be the most helpful person to us so I can't help to talk to him and I can't wait to talk to others who've continued to fight to solve this assassination let me tell you about a bit about myself two years ago a gent I trained to represent kids against

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gent I trained to represent kids against the evil school districts in New York became the superintendent of our Rochester City School District and he asked me to join him as I had sue the district in a special ed policies and taken over the department for eight years under a consent decree I joined them as chief counsel two years ago it's the first time I've worked in a quasi government job since I worked at the House Select Committee on assassinations I constantly want to sue them for what they are doing and for and for which what I am trying to correct a change internally so let me get to the connection I realized that what happened to me at the house of that committee is happening all over again after my work at the Senate committee I did not want to work in any governmental agency despite being offered no numerous jobs despite Bob Blakey encouraging me to work for Morgenthau despite him telling me that I will become the first Latino Supreme Court justice if I follow what he had prescribed for me I wanted to the government and in fact that's what I did

I went to legal services and sued the government constantly so preparing for today made me reflect on that my view from the trenches is just that it's not gonna be a legal analysis it is my recollection of those 18 or so months and the committee is gonna fill in a lot of the details about what Dan started talking about today okay it's not gonna be a legal analysis it's an idea of what it was like to work at the House Select Committee on assassinations and also to work with and against the CIA so how did I get here there was a Cornell Law School toiling away working on two chapters for a book that Bob was working on for the Institute on organized crime I finished a section got an a - Bob professor Blakey back

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got an a - Bob professor Blakey back then had an appointment to discuss my work with him and went to see him and he says how would you like to help me find out who killed Johnny and frankly I didn't know what the hell he was talking about I really I really didn't and so I said excuse me and he said John F Kennedy I've just been named chief counsel to find out who killed John F Kennedy and thus began over become what I call my wild journey at the house of the Committee on assassinations soon Dan Lesley Wasserman mark Flanagan and myself all law students joined Bob in Washington DC and we were true Outsiders there we were in a huge office in DC House annex number two the former FBI records building ironic isn't it just southwest of the capital not knowing anybody else on the committee additionally although I was from New York City we were basically Hicks at least Dan was and still is and we knew no one at first almost no one would speak to us at all and we overheard staffers talking about the Munchkins and wondered whom they were talking about until it dawned on us that the other ACA staffers were referring to us we were the Munchkins especially Leslie and myself very short people here so at first I worked on just learning about the case because I had not been following the assassination you know I was seven years old when John F Kennedy had been assassinated so it was it was a different era and I read Mark Twain's book book and the other tomes of the times I looked at the church committee report and I look forward to meeting Gaytan Fonzie because I know he was working on the committee I worked on whether Castro had ordered the JFK's assassination following up on a comer Clarke article in The Enquirer because

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Clarke article in The Enquirer because as Bob said we had to basically tie things up okay so and I wrote a short report of the Committee on that then we were divvied up into teams and I became part of team number three the anti-castro team and I've got to tell you we were extremely well organized by Bob and I'm not meaning to be too critical of a giant I'd respect dearly but we may have been too organized to a definitely totally compartmentalized Bob rotten individuals with backgrounds in prosecuting organized criminals okay but with little street smarts and in fact I would say almost no street smarts frankly at first it was obvious to me that Bob did not think much of the street cops that were there when spray was there he viewed his job and I understand that now that I'm a chief counsel someplace else but he viewed his job as having to write a report and he also knew that we only have so much time to do it what I think he forgot is that because he trusted the agency they knew that they could wait us out because we were a select committee not a standing committee and those are very very different types yeah just let me interrupt to finish the thought that I started when I was speaking when when they started shutting us down and me and Eddie started going to Bob and complaining that that we were being cut out it was hard to convince him because we had had such good access and we'd had had had such good cooperation and they had been working consistently on Bob to undermine me and Eddie Bob actually at that point supported us and we got a subpoena for stuff yeah Proenza and and am I allowed to say her name in public and and we got

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to say her name in public and and we got subpoenas Bob got subpoenas for stuff we wanted that they refused to give us from the committee and he was still backing us at that point and at that point the CIA started attacking me and Ed to the members of the committee to try to undercut Bob with the committee and Stansfield Turner actually wrote letters mainly about the problems at that point that I was involved at - Turner

- undercut us with the committee and the committee ended up being the ones that really did not back as as we were pushing for that final those final bits of information that's absolutely correct so just taking us back again so there I was at a meeting and the Gary had Gary Cornwall who was Bob's you know guy in charge of the Kennedy assassination and all of a sudden Gary says so what the hell are those guys down in Miami doing and I've got to tell you I mean I had I said so I said well one of you guys call Fonzie and ask him to answer the question in a few words for me okay I just want a few words so and I've always been a bit of an and through the form I raised my hand and said that I could answer the question in five words trying to solve the case and then he said what these guys are running around all over the place down there and they've never come up with anything that we can resolve in time and once again there you have the problem with the committee we had to resolve things in time because we were a limited committee in existence that we were not going to be refunded and I mean and that's just the way it works so that framework of the organization became more than more important and more and more stymieing to what we all had to do and I was sort of shocked by what Gary

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and I was sort of shocked by what Gary had asked because Gaytan had been sending Gaytan could write and he wrote prolifically and the guy arm was sending us missus constantly in two sets regular notes yellow notes about different things that were going on it was he was amazing and I was reading them dan was reading them and so we knew what he was doing and I can't assume that Gary was also know so just to give an idea so let me just recall Gaytan for a minute he will come up to visit and he would stay with Dan and me and we will spend hours and I mean hours discussing our work conjecturing analyzing putting ourselves in the minds of the CIA in the minds of committee members in the minds of the people that we wanted to investigate because we said if we're going to find out what is going on we've got to think like them and so we would over alcohol we drank a lot of alcohol back then and some other things we would focus on the investigation and deep into the night deep into the night and I remember something that gaytan told us one time but maybe more than one time he said by small tape recorders and dictate your thoughts every night and all I can say is if only if only if only so so anyway the organization that was imposed on us was incredibly strict we were told to come up with questions for our team that could be fully explored in the next nine months fully explored the next nine months and I recall a visit from Gaytan soon thereafter where once again we spent hours in our living room and he said so what kind of questions should we ask and he came up with was there an Intelligence Agency connection through

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Intelligence Agency connection through the anti-castro Cubans and Oswald to the Kennedy assassination and I've got to tell you it's incredible and I said that's incredible this is it and Gaytan always been the pragmatist says they'll never accept it at the committee you know what he was right they didn't accept it because I was being very naive because the first thing they said was how are we ever gonna resolve that issue are you not let's let's let's move on so what we wanted to do was look for patterns we wanted to pursue patterns of verified misinformation let me repeat those words verified misinformation almost all linking Oswald to the CIA others were born in Miami immediately assassination many of those then coswell to Castro misinformation again okay misinformation and all then when we started looking at it being linked back to the CIA as dan so eloquently told you before so we have to said that question we figured would also give us the opening to pursue the Antonio vasana story since Bishop had asked him to develop of happen developer phony stories with cousin in Castro's intelligence service see no so no we were not nearly as stupid as to see I thought we were at the beginning you know and and we were thinking about things and they figured it out very quickly by the way it didn't take them to lunch we was going on so as you know Gary rejected Gary we rejected our our question okay and and basically said and I said so you know but don't you see we could get so much closer if we answer this question so much closer to finding

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this question so much closer to finding out what happened and Gary's remark and I remember this to this day says closer is not good enough we can't put closer in to a report add closer is not good enough I'm sure you were there Dan and you remember this it's just incredible so in fact as everybody here knows now through our Gonzalez and um when I was in Cuba Fidel called him El Gigante because he was a big man that he GaN Tamizh giant and Gates's investigation of the anti-castro groups in Florida um came one of our biggest needs the David Phillips Maurice Bishop Lee it was this lead along some other groundbreaking work done by Dan but pretty much pretty much on his own that Blake he decided then to create a Mexico City team it was created and there was you know through dance incredible work and I remember having these long conversations with Dan over dinner and after about those leads that he had single-handedly come up with and I've got to tell you that as soon as um his bat team was formed I ran into Bob's office and I said I want to work with Dan on this work because this is where it's going to lead down the road this is what's really important Mexico City about this about this subcommittee so Dan and I have got to tell you we attacked this area with incredible fervor I mean we we slept it we aided we drank it and we requested yeah exactly it was incredible we requested countless documents okay and we were getting them as Dan said and then we started asking about the disinformation after the assassination and everything changed we were basically told that they were

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were basically told that they were establishing an office within our office for access we were told that only staffers that now were accorded a super-duper top-secret security clearance we had one already but now this was a superduper one okay and only those people could go into that office and read the files we'd be getting it okay simple as that they place the permanent person a babysitter in that office they controlled what we got how we got it how we took notes how we save notes and how we even got those notes and access to them later what do I mean by that the room had a safe with a safe in that safe we were given pads we had to date those pads number those pads and the initial every page we walked worked on it any notes taken by Dan or myself had to be placed in an envelope that was dated and then sealed and handed to the CIA liaison who logged them in with that date imagine how easy it was then to access those daughters a lot of those documents are missing some way out of there absolutely how easy it was to access them later on when we were dressed in the report just imagine how much longer it took to do that and when they knew that we didn't have that much time again thus timing and your I mentioned before that the report is not the Lopez report I'll say it again Blakey go Smith hardway Fonzi Lopez report um but I've got to tell you about a few things that happen to us that you will love so one time we were cooking dinner for the cultural attache for Cuba as they had no Cuban embassy in Washington DC and hours before there's a van that says standard in dishes of America funny si a

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standard in dishes of America funny si a instead of CIA okay and it appeared down the block and and then and I were walking around with her name tangi yeah the dog playing frisbee out there in our flip-flops you know or barefooted and we will see them just like boys with stuff and so we went over to talk to them yeah we've been able to talk to them and brought him coffee and say hello and what have you hours later because the Cubans were always late when they showed up to dinner an hour late lo and behold guy says oh let's wait for now to them they go everywhere we go the next morning the next morning the minute we got in Bob calls us into his office he had already been contacted by the agency they had asked if we had Cubans for dinner did he know that and Bob was incredibly upset not because we had Cubans over but because we did not inform him beforehand so that he could say to them yes I knew and they had my permission he says don't ever do that again I need to be able to say yes I know now let me I know that it's 10:00 to 11:00 so I'm gonna wrap up very soon here but I wanted to talk to you about our trip to Cuba because it was it was incredible and we had expressed problems with getting photographs of the people who went into the Cuban embassy out of the Cuban embassy and we had been asking the CIA for ever and they have said we don't

have them doesn't exist whatever they had one excuse after another so we mentioned to President Castro that we've been having major problems getting them the next day we're there and out comes a book is also what's there and there were

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book is also what's there and there were the photos of everyone that went into the Cuban see when Lee Harvey Oswald had allegedly visit and again as Dan said allegedly okay and funny there was no picture of Lee Harvey Oswald but there were pictures of the CIA photographers that had been taking the photos during that time do the slats exactly so you think about that right it it gives you an idea of what was going on with the CIA so you can imagine their surprise when we returned to DC and we asked them to verify the veracity of the books that Fidel Castro had given us it boggles the mind truth is more weird than fiction when you think about these issues so we asked the CIA about giving us access to the photographers and of course they refused but the one person that we got to see even though we don't receive photos to the slots we basically basically had to interview through in a hotel room through a sound system we were in separate rooms voice recognition right I mean we could not recognize any voices etc so we could ask the questions that's how we talked to one person think about the kind of BS that was going on back then yes aha did you say that there was some mechanism it works so that the person in the other room you could not see their voice was distorted so you would not recognize so for all we know it was Paul Winchell or somebody doing everybody's voices it could have been it could have been anybody everybody David Phillips Joe I need is who knows we just thought we just don't know but I've got a tone we had some incredible

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a tone we had some incredible occurrences Dan you'll remember when we were really focus was the CIA and we find things that we never should have been given people not looked at that stuff carefully and at one point we found out the names of people who have been at the Cuban embassy who also happens within double agents with the CIA and and so we asked for access for them they're like where did you get those names check Wow in this document and they're like I'm sure somebody got fired that evening okay and exactly where I was going so we asked the CIA for access to them and for the suit to the students that has were met with and then they deny us so we had to go up the chain and again this takes time growing up the chain you ask the next person up denied next person up the night finally Bob Leakey and stands for a mistake and Rahm and Louis Stokes went to see sterile Turner at the CIA directly and denied so they came back to the office and spouse goes away and Bob Leckie calls me in and this is Bob Blake here as best he says so gives me the information he says so what did Stansfield Turner say said that they will not make these people available to us he says did they say anything on us not being able to go out and find them and so all of a sudden I was on a plane to Mexico with a guy named be a column happy enough I should give his real name who Howard leap his name who had been um a DEA agent from Bob knew well and I was brought in basically like in handcuffs as an informant of a DEA agent so that I could get in there we told no one we

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could get in there we told no one we were going there no one yeah well that's what that was a bob said you're on vacation if they find out I know nothing it was like shots I see nothing I hear nothing pure and simple okay so so we did go down there and dance already told you that I don't know how they found out except of course I think our phones were bugged our our place was bugged but um to make a very long story short we did talk to one person and then anybody else's appear so so we went up into some other work and talked to the deputy chief of operations staff at the Mexico City station and and then came back came back looking for others it was incredible but look I could go on forever recounting stories about our struggles to get the work done but I I want to provide you some time to ask questions of Dan and myself so I am I'm going to stop I will tell you because I'm a lawyer and lawyers always love to continue talking and always have a few more words to say that that Jim Lazar is doing an incredible job in trying to get access to these important documents because these are the documents that will allow us to find out how our investigation was stymied

and also to learn more about exactly what happened you know with respect to the assassination time surpassing folks we've lost Mike go Smith al Gonzales gateman Fonzie a lot of talent and memories let's make sure that what those of us are not our life for did the work and those of you out there who are doing the work that we rally around Jim and the work that he's doing to get the documents that we need to solve this mess

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David go ahead yes David Kiser I'm the author of the road to Dallas I have an addendum to mr. Hardaway's presentation that he might may or may not want to comment on and I have a question for mr. Lopez the addendum is this it has to do with CIA files there is now at Nera thanks to the board in the CIA a printed microfilm collection a file on the d-r-e in which you follow Joe and Edie's relations with them through the second half of 1963 on some matters particularly the dr e's desire to set a prepare military camp which you turned them down and in fact to be quite frank you can tree and that file by the way also goes back to 62 the whole story of how basically they fired their own case officer and got him replaced to hell and they were lying about that and they wouldn't let you have that but what is fascinating to me is there's nothing in that file that they couldn't have survived so if they're trying to hide something it's something else which is one of their tactics so I'm fascinated by that Mr Lopez I know you have generously shared the credit but I'm going to treat the Lopez report is your report and I loved it and I felt this man is a kindred spirit because you were so careful so sure not to go beyond exactly what the facts said in all these complicated issues about Oswald in Mexico City and frankly that's the way I am too and when I reread a little of the road to Dallas or of any of my other books I often find myself saying to myself David why were you so careful there I mean the evidence is really stronger than you made it out to be you could have gone further and I want to ask you I don't know when the last time you read

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I don't know when the last time you read the report was but are there things in the Lopez report that you feel that way about when you look at them now I have no idea what they might be that that gee we really could have been a good deal stronger there than we were so I'm my ants also provide his answer because really we did this work together but there were times and had more conclusions and more of my opinion in there and then Mike Goldsmith when he did the final edit sort of like scaled it back and so I can't take credit ok work because Clara does not do their I think at times I said more and Mike Mickey Goldsmith when he was doing the final rewrites just scaled the back and said you know we we've got to be more careful we spend a lot of time talking about it and so no that's how I feel the other thing is that we also knew that I was going to be presented to the CIA and we wanted it to be accepted we wanted it to be released and so and so imagine our surprise when we got to the CIA and we have what we saw as a good document that was measured really measured and yet we couldn't get past the first page then in two hours in two hours because they wanted to like put make it like Swiss cheese so that's my answer Danford oh you know the that's an interesting thing because that that's highly relevant today to what's going on with the Senate report they did the very same thing to us Eddie's report the Lopez report was was written to be part of the final report that is a draft section of the final report of the committee that never got released because the CIA did the same thing that they're now doing to the Senate Intelligence report but I want to point out to you if you know anything about how Senate rules operate the resolution Senate resolution 400 that created the

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Senate resolution 400 that created the Senate Intelligence Committee gives the Senate Intelligence Committee the right to declassify anything that they determined should be declassified and but but that raises the question why is there all this to do about declassifying and publishing this report unless the Senate itself is too afraid of the CIA now that was a subject of another paper I'm working on that someday I may get to present somewhere but that's the same thing but yeah the the report we thought was measured we thought it was very reasonable we thought it was very accurate and assessing the the records that we had

available to us and raising questions that should have been raised but did we have more information we had stronger opinions but they were opinions and the we weren't writing an opinion piece we were trying to write a summary of what we we found by the way there will be more directly relevant information in my talk tomorrow to some of what you said gentlemen we've got a very very limited amount of time ladies and gentlemen and we want to have everyone have an opportunity to speak to our guests I'm aware I don't want to do a breach of protocol but I'm aware that Malcom Blunt has to leave within the next hour or so and I wonder if we could as a courtesy to Malcolm just let Malcolm ask a question very briefly and then we will continue right up as close as we can to the point at which dr. Newman will give his talk yeah you guys have done a tremendous job because the 36 boxes of your notes at Nara I use all the time I go backwards and forwards in those and I know the agency struggled with the decision to actually let those go there was a guy in their historical review group called Frank most along a long time it was career agent and he said he gave a recommendation a lot of

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said he gave a recommendation a lot of that stuff should never be released but it's released in it's a tremendous stuff and on to the pouch when you talked about the the pouch that was sent into the record integration division you can exclude it there's a there's a system within the record integration division where you can get stuff stamped at the executive office and it says on a stamp to be excluded from the record integration division so it can go to the record integration division but be hidden that was one of the things that I was that I was really pushing both the CIA and was trying get are the people that worked with state to find out about what kind of records were kept on those pouches how they were handled the fact that the transmittal manifest had a number on it indicated to me that there was some way to trace the stupid thing yeah yeah yeah who's there but it's a it's a it's a another part of the record I mean it's very opaque yeah and right it doesn't go into the official records no but you're never gonna convince me that someone does not have a record of where that thing went that stuff is stumped so we were often told by some CIA intelligence officers that give us information that they had files that if they don't want a number there is no number simple as that there is no transmittal number there's nothing it's just for their eyes only being held by let's say william harvey in his desk in a little cabinet that only he gets a chance to see and nobody else told the nation the same thing Dallas told the Warren Commission we can never determine whether someone was actually an agent because the only way that some agents are ever verified is in the personal files of the guy that's actually running the agent and in nowhere else and he said there may only be a hieroglyphic and a note that indicates who the agent is which explains a lot of the mystery

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is which explains a lot of the mystery about mr. versi honest testimony and why they can insist that there's no record there if they're in fact is not of record there because we have found that they consistently lie in this area so if we could move to the next question go ahead counselor Washington DC my question is directed to Dan hardway there's a great deal of debate in the research community whether Lee Harvey Oswald actually did go to Mexico City in September of 1963 many of the rich many people say no you suggested this morning that he did I you know we did not uh we did not specifically look at whether or not Alice Wald actually went our conclusion in the Lopez report was that it was very likely that an imposter at least made some of the phone calls if not some of the visits looking back yeah we're both looking back on that I'm no longer certain of that conclusion either and the reason that I'm no longer certain of that conclusion is because of any good pastors involvement with Bill Harvey and and the and yeah and and the fact that Harvey had a lot of personal loyalty for the people that were involved in the electronic intercepts operations which is an operation in the CIA that he had founded and started and recruited the agents for it I'm not at all certain that there were actually even phone calls that were made by the imposter I'm not at all certain that the the faking of those didn't happen at the transcript level and there were fake transcripts inserted we were paranoid schizophrenics thinking about this because they how could that actually be that way right then mm-hmm and then

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that way right then mm-hmm and then you've met any good pastor and you figured out how it could be that way Paul thank you for your question Jay polikov a or C I don't actually have a question I'm just listening to you guys i I just you are such an important story to tell and I would beg you both of you to write a book to a I mean this has to be you know we're only seeing the tip of the iceberg and you guys got to do an oral history and you got to write a book because this needs to get out there it's so important and thank you for coming if only again if only we had listened to Gaytan now then did write me recently and let me say to everybody that if we ever got our act together I received put it together and and there anything we would have to call the book or the screenplay Talking Heads clash we love talking heads we love the clash but of course think about the irony Talking Heads clash because that's what we went through with the committee and etc they they were those two being pretty much provided the soundtrack for mine and it's work we used to show up at the CIA at 7:30 in the morning with Talking Heads or The Clash blurring as loudly as we could out of the speakers and other vehicles we would row up to the CIA with air below our shoulders or there come to face again they they thought we were immature and and stupid go ahead okay well David shymala of contract on America it's a total pleasure to hear you speak about all these reminiscences I just briefly Burt Griffin told me the same thing about the Warren Commission he was looking into ruby but it was initially given four months to wrap the whole thing up so you know constrained from the start I just wanna a first question is will Blakey statement be on the record available yes

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statement be on the record available yes it it'll be it'll be made available on the AARC website plus Bob will be here tomorrow afternoon okay it's quite amazing thank you and he's spending a half hours 240 minutes asking answering questions yeah Jim but can i I just wanted to say yeah I just wanted to say one other thing very briefly that I'm just wondering if you look at Tampa and Chicago you know Patsy's and assassination attempts that were thwarted and then as well you know set up as a patsy but someone who you'd set up as a patsy in those days of underworld anti-castro mafia CIA perhaps by mistake they got someone who had links just a lot of embarrassing things I'm wondering if in some sense too much focus on oswald it will get you in places they don't want to see you but i'm wondering if it could be a distraction if we're following their agenda once we you know just let me answer that that's that's one of the things that that our that i've thought about and i've talked to dr. Newman about is is you know the agency has a penchant for running operations within operations there's layers and then there's layers of cover stories and there's layers of deniability and I think that it's entirely possible and entirely potentially credible that David at Lee Phillips thought he was running a simple disinformation dangle operation and had no clue about what was being planned in Dallas I think it said apparently he failed I think it's entirely possible it's entirely possible that not only did Oswald find out that he was a patsy on November 22nd David at Lee Phillips found out that he had been using the person who was accused of assassinating the president and now November 22nd he was presented with a brief now tie this to Castro yeah

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brief now tie this to Castro yeah Jim go ahead yeah okay I have two questions I'm Jim do genial all right hey Eddie on your book put his name first okay first word for Danny so from you were saying earlier I guess you were saying there were more students and used Contreras who was Oswald I actually met with though well Contreras says there was a whole group of them we were trying to find out who they were you find them we couldn't find them we can they kept as they kept us away from just about everybody we wanted to talk to on that second trip to Mexico okay and Eddie I like talked to you about this once before I talked about have you read Shannon's book Sina yeah do you think Elena de carril de Paz is a disinformation agent no no no you know I was supposed to go visit her in Spain that's where she was and we actually had the ticket already bought and we cuz we had said we'll bring her over but but Elena was very unstable person and so they were cold or so we're told but I spent a lot of time talking to her on the telephone okay and and she kept saying yes come over I've got so much to talk to you about blah blah blah and then no I can't talk and yes

come over and so I don't know whether whether it was instability or it was that she was being frightened by someone or that she was frightened herself but ultimately we were we had I had taken to go there we have bought tickets were to come to us and neither of them worked out we've got about two minutes professor melon thank you gate and Fonzi when I was doing my book said the one person I should talk to from the committee is sitting up there any little bit so any Lopez I this is what I wanted to ask you for a long time

01:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmRhdOvzyQQ&t=4800s)

what I wanted to ask you for a long time when Bernardo de Torres was briefed by the CIA before the committee questioned him what were the strictures that CIA put on what could they ask Bernardo de - I would be lying to you if I remember but we were given specific time periods which we could not ask him questions about and it was not just the CIA that came in to talk to Bob it was the CIA the FBI and one other agency and each of them gave said you cannot talk about this time period you cannot talk about that timeframe so by the end when Mike goes within myself for sitting there and so one other person has got to see my bill something or other we're sitting there preparing to question and you Chuck Bert were like I say they were saying well what do we ask him about it because there's nothing less it's like oh how was your drive over here well I just want to mention what gate and funds he said I think it may even be in his book and that is he was sitting there listening and after listening to that he wondered he said anyone who listening listening to this would wonder why of all the thousands of Cubans in Miami they chose this guy to bring because he's a nice guy last question dr. romantic this is a simple yes-or-no answer David Mantic from Jerry Ford's hometown and go back in time five or ten years would you have predicted then that you could that Blakey would have made the statement that you Rhett I've always believed that he'd eventually come around nice and on that Edie do you want to add no no I I think I agree with Dan I know a new Bob would eventually come around and and so you know it's it's a matter we were in it we were so invested and so heavily involved in it and Bob was up above everybody it

01:22:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmRhdOvzyQQ&t=4922s)

in it and Bob was up above everybody it was like like a note that umbrella group and he's looking at the whole thing and and he doesn't have the time to look and spend the hours that we needed to spend doing things I'm gonna just give you an example I worked with them both Vince Bugliosi and with Gerry Spence on the Showtime special on Lee Harvey Oswald trial and both in some ways was the way that Gerry Spence looked at the trial he asked me a question I'm giving him like all this detail and he looks at many says Eddie Eddie Eddie this is television say it to me in 30 words or less and and bob was the same way he had so much on his mind he just wanted you to get to the point how is it going to be in the report how will it look and then move forward at that time yeah but just let me add maybe it's the final comment and Bob I'm sure is more than able to handle himself and answer any questions but just let me say that the reason why I always remain confident that he would eventually come around is because in my opinion he is a man of incredible integrity and I think eddie'll back yeah 100% thank you gentlemen

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